

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of preparing an electrically conductive polymer blend, the method comprising steps of selecting at least two polymeric materials that are substantially immiscible together, mixing said polymeric materials into a blend so that at least one of the polymeric materials forms a continuous three-dimensional phase through the entire blend, and mixing an electrically conductive filler into said blend, wherein the electrically conductive filler contains a metal, wherein the electrically conductive filler is dispersed mainly in only one continuous three-dimensional phase, wherein another of said polymeric materials forms a non-dispersing phase ~~which comprises at least one of polymethylmethacrylate, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, polyoxymethylene and liquid crystal polymer, and wherein the difference in surface tension between~~ of the polymeric material forming said one continuous three-dimensional phase and the other polymeric materials forming the polymer blend is at least 2 mN/m lower than the surface tension of the other polymeric materials forming the polymer blend, and the surface tension of the electrically conductive

filler is lower than the surface tension of each of the polymeric materials forming the polymer blend.

2-4. (canceled)

5. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the polymer blend comprises at least two three-dimensional continuous phases.

6. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive filler contains nickel.

7. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a bloc copolymer is mixed into the blend to stabilize the structure thereof.

8. (currently amended) An electrically conductive polymer blend, prepared by a method comprising steps of selecting at least two polymeric materials that are substantially immiscible together, mixing said polymeric materials into a blend so that at least one of the polymeric materials forms a continuous three-dimensional phase through the entire blend, and mixing an electrically conductive filler into said blend, wherein the electrically conductive filler contains a metal, wherein the electrically conductive filler is dispersed mainly in only one

continuous three-dimensional phase, wherein another of said polymeric materials forms a non-dispersing phase ~~which comprises at least one of polymethylmethacrylate, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, polyoxymethylene and liquid crystal polymer,~~ and wherein the ~~difference in~~ surface tension ~~between~~ of the polymeric material forming said one continuous three-dimensional phase ~~and the other polymeric materials forming the polymer blend~~ is at least 2 mN/m lower than the surface tension of the other polymeric materials forming the polymer blend, and the surface tension of the electrically conductive filler is lower than the surface tension of each of the polymeric materials forming the polymer blend.

9. (new) A method of preparing an electrically conductive polymer blend, comprising the steps of:

selecting at least two polymeric materials being substantially immiscible together and having different surface tensions such that one of said polymeric materials has a surface tension of at least 2 mN/m lower than the surface tension of the other polymeric materials;

selecting an electrically conductive material containing a metal and having a surface tension lower than the surface tension of each of said polymeric materials;

mixing said polymeric materials so that at least one polymeric material forms a continuous three-dimensional phase through the entire blend; and

mixing said electrically conductive filler into said blend so that said electrically conductive filler is dispersed in mainly one continuous three-dimensional phase to form a dispersing phase and another of said polymeric materials forms a non-dispersing phase.

10. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein the non-dispersing phase comprises at least one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of polymethylmethacrylate, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, polyoxymethylene and liquid crystal polymer.

11. (new) The method according to claim 8, wherein the non-dispersing phase comprises at least one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of polymethylmethacrylate, styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, polyoxymethylene and liquid crystal polymer.

12. (new) The method according to claim 9, wherein the non-dispersing phase comprises at least one polymeric material selected from the group consisting of polymethylmethacrylate,

styrene/acrylonitrile copolymer, polyoxymethylene and liquid
crystal polymer.